

California's 11th Congressional District and Richmond's first African American lawyer, city councilmember and mayor. Judge Carroll died January 14, 2016 at age 94.

Mr. Carroll was born into humble beginnings in Brooklyn, New York. His mother died when he was five, and he was raised by his sister Ruth who encouraged him to pursue a higher education. After serving in the Army, he successfully graduated from college and earned his degree in New York on the G.I. Bill. After his graduation, he worked at the District Attorney's Office in Kings County, New York, for five years before moving to private practice. In 1952 he moved to the San Francisco Bay Area, finally settling in Richmond in 1954, where he opened his private practice and became an active community member.

Mr. Carroll is widely acknowledged as the first African American lawyer in Richmond, California and was the first African American elected to its city council in 1961. In 1964, Mr. Carroll made history as the first African American elected Mayor of Richmond, and is thought to be the first African American mayor of any large American city since Reconstruction. He fought against discrimination and broke down barriers for African Americans to go to law school and to practice law in the Bay Area. George Carroll became the first black judge in Contra Costa when he was appointed to the Bay Municipal Court by Governor Pat Brown in 1965. He served as a judge in West County until his retirement from the bench in 1982. During his service, Judge Carroll declined a promotion to the Superior Court in order to continue to work in Richmond. He was admired in the community as a leader, role model, and mentor to many. The Richmond Courthouse and a park in the Point Richmond District are fitting tributes to Judge Carroll. We are grateful for his myriad accomplishments and for the countless contributions he made to our local community.

I send my deepest condolences to his family, friends, and loved ones. Judge Carroll made an indelible impression on all of us. He will be missed.

HONORING JEFFREY A. BEEN OF THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Louisville resident Jeffrey A. Been as he retires after 24 years of service at the Legal Aid Society in Louisville, Kentucky.

Named Executive Director at the Legal Aid Society in 2005, Jeff's legacy at the helm of this important organization includes leading the fight to maintain funding for legal services for the poor during the Great Recession, building relationships with community partners to ensure that our city's most disadvantaged neighbors have access to the courts and other supportive services, and expanding programming for homeowners, domestic violence victims, and veterans. In his time at the organization, he also created innovative technology tools to help facilitate greater access to our justice system for all.

Jeff served as Associate Director of the Legal Aid Society from 2000–2005 and as Project Director of the organization's HIV/AIDS Legal Project from 1992–2000. Prior to his work at Legal Aid in Louisville, Jeff served as a prosecutor, judicial law clerk, staff attorney for the U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit, and on the faculty at the Indiana School of Law. Jeff also founded the HIV/AIDS Legal Project of Indiana, one of the first programs in the nation to provide free legal services to people living with HIV disease.

He is also the recipient of several awards for his professional service, including the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law Dean's Service Award, the Louisville Bar Association's Justice Martin E. Johnstone Special Recognition Award, and the Kentucky Bar Association's Donated Legal Service Award.

On behalf of the people of Kentucky's Third Congressional District and the City of Louisville, I extend my best wishes to Jeff as he begins a much deserved retirement.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National School Choice Week, celebrating choice in education across all fifty states.

Every January, National School Choice Week shines a positive light on effective, personal education options for every child and consists of 157 scheduled events occurring in communities across Iowa. National School Choice Week celebrates the different K–12 options and learning styles available to parents and students, and the importance to find the right individual fit for each child. Every student's needs are unique—and a one-size-fits all education model is not beneficial to our children.

A quality education is imperative for the success of future generations and our country, and National School Choice Week highlights the multitude of options available today: charter, magnet, public, and private schools, as well as homeschooling. I commend the charter and private schools operating in the First District and I believe school choice is an important policy which can lead to better student outcomes.

Today's students cannot become tomorrow's leaders without a vibrant education. I will continue to advocate for the best options for parents, students, teachers, and administrators to ensure the success of our children.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD J. "STRETCH" McGRATH, JR.

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Richard J. McGrath, Jr., who passed away on Saturday January 23, 2016. Richard was born September 26, 1958,

in Warren, Ohio. The son of Richard and Anna Krysko McGrath, Sr., Richard was employed with the Trumbull County Sheriff's Office for 25 years, where he was a Deputy Sheriff. He was also a School Resource Officer at Trumbull Career and Technical Center. Always proud to serve his community Richard was serving as the President of the Trumbull County Deputies Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #137, a member of the Crime Clinic of Greater Youngstown and a former member of the Youngstown Model Railroad Association. His passions included woodworking and playing music on the keyboard. He loved his family, and all of his pets.

Richard will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and community. He leaves behind his parents, of Warren; his wife, Leslie Faustino-McGrath of Liberty; his children, Ryan (Chris) McGrath, Amy (Dave) McGrath, Megan (Tori) McGrath, all of Warren; Jaryd Faustino of Girard and Casey Faustino-Carpenter, (Zac), of Norfolk, VA; his granddaughter Avalenna Faustino and his sister Pat (Dave) Batzdorf, of Candia, NH, as well as numerous family and friends.

Losses like this are never easy, but we can take solace in the fact that Richard left behind a legacy of love and community service that we can hope to carry on. Our community is indebted to his years of selfless service.

CELEBRATING B.I. MOODY'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th birthday of Braxton Isham Moody, or B.I. as we call him in Cajun Country. B.I. was born in the small town of Eunice in Southwest Louisiana on February 4, 1926. He graduated from Rayne High School in 1942 and enlisted in the United States Navy, where he served aboard the USS *Randolph* in the Pacific theater. After the war, B.I. graduated from Southwestern Louisiana Institute, now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, in 1949.

B.I.'s keen business sense led him on many successful ventures, founding the public accounting firm Moody, Broussard, Poche, and Guidry in Crowley, and serving as President and CEO of national restaurant group Chart House Inc., and as Chairman of the Board of First National Bank of Lafayette. Today, the University of Lafayette has named the College of Business Administration in B.I.'s honor thanks to his business success and his heart for the future of South Louisiana.

I know B.I. as a pillar of our community, someone who worked hard to build successful businesses but never forgot where he came from. B.I. has always been generous with his time and resources to help others succeed, and to help build a better state of Louisiana. As B.I. celebrates 90 years, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing him for his many contributions to our country and wishing him many years of health and happiness to come.